

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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VISAS

FOLLOWING ABU DHABI 264 ACTION SECSTATE INFO DOHA JIDDA KUWAIT MANAMA
MUSCAT 3 FEB

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ABU DHABI 0264

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : CVIS, RECIPROCITY, UAE

SUBJECT : LIBERALIZATION OF UAE VISA POLICY

REFS: A) DEPT OM 12/15/75 (NOTAL) B) ABU DHABI 0017

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED.

1. AS DEPT AWARE, EMBASSY HAS BEEN ATTEMPTING FOR OVER
YEAR PERSUADE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES TO LIBERALIZE NIV
POLICY ON RECIPROCAL BASIS. DURING REFTEL B DISCUSSIONS
WITH MINFORNAFF OFFICIALS, THIS SUBJECT ONCE AGAIN BROACHED
AS POSSIBLY ONE WAY TO EASE STUDENT VISA PROBLEM. UAE OFFICIALS
AGREED THAT MULTIPLE ENTRY VISAS FOR THEIR STUDENTS WOULD
BE USEFUL AND AT SAME TIME EXPRESSED THEIR WILLINGNESS
EXTEND SAME PRIVILEGE TO U.S. BUSINESSMEN. ON JAN 28,
EMBASSY RECEIVED FOREIGN OFFICE NOTE SAYING IN PART:

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QUOTE....THAT THE CONCERNED AUTHORITIES IN THE STATE

HAVE AGREED TO GRANT AMERICAN BUSINESS PERSONNEL A
MULTIPLE ENTRY ONE YEAR VISA. UNQUOTE.

2. IN RESPONSE, EMBASSY HAS FORWARDED NOTE TO FOREIGN
OFFICE REQUESTING UAE AGREEMENT TO FOLLOWING SCHEDULE:

CLASS	FEES	NO. APPLICATION	VALIDITY
A-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
A-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
A-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
B-1	\$3.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
B-2	\$3.00	ONE ENTRY	3 MONTHS
C-1	\$3.00	ONE ENTRY	3 MONTHS
C-2	\$3.00	ONE ENTRY	3 MONTHS
C-3	\$3.00	ONE ENTRY	3 MONTHS
D	\$3.00	ONE ENTRY	3 MONTHS
E-1	NO TREATY		
E-2	NO TREATY		
F-1	\$3.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
F-2	\$3.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
G-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
G-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
G-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	3 MONTHS
G-4	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
G-5/6	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
H-1	\$3.00	ONE ENTRY	3 MONTHS
H-2	\$3.00	ONE ENTRY	3 MONTHS
H-3	\$3.00	ONE ENTRY	3 MONTHS
H-4	\$3.00	ONE ENTRY	3 MONTHS
J-1&2	\$3.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
K	\$3.00	ONE ENTRY	3 MONTHS
L-1&2	\$3.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS

THEREFORE, BEGINNING FEBRUARY 2, 1976, EMBASSY ABU
DHABI WILL COMMENCE ISSUING ONE YEAR MULTIPLE ENTRY
VISAS TO UAE STUDENTS (F-1&2) AND TO UAE VISITORS FOR
BUSINESS (B-1). IN THIS SAME NOTE EMBASSY SUGGESTED
THAT UAE CONSIDER ABOLISHING \$3.00 FEE. DURING REFTEL
B CONVERSATIONS, EMBOFFS HAD ALSO SUGGESTED ELIMINATING
FEE SINCE NEITHER U.S. NOR UAE NEEDED REVENUE GENERATED
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BY FEE, AND IT MORE TROUBLE THAN PROFIT. FOREIGN MINISTRY
OFFICIALS AGREED WITH ARGUMENT, BUT SAID THAT FEE IMPOSED BY
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AND LATTER'S AGREEMENT REQUIRED BEFORE
FEE COULD BE DROPPED. END UNCLASSIFIED.

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4. COMMENT: EMBASSY VIEWS LIBERALIZATION BY UAE AS CONSID-

ERABLE PROGRESS ON WHICH WE HOPE TO BUILD TO ELIMINATE FEES
AND TO EXTEND INCREASE IN VALIDITY AND NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS TO
ALL CATEGORIES OF NIV APPLICANTS. PROGRESS IN VISA FIELD IS
SIGNIFICANT BECAUSE AT ONE POINT EMBASSY WAS INFORMALLY ADVISED BY
SENIOR FONMIN OFFICIAL THAT UAE, WHILE WISHING TO BE FLEXIBLE,
COULD NOT LIBERALIZE VISA POLICY WHILE OTHER ARAB STATES RETAINED
TIGHT/RESTRICTIVE VISA CONTROLS.
STERNER UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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